

generally accredited and uncontradicted were not wholly inadmissible. He could not go so far as to say that he would do so at the earliest practicable period.

Mr. Peck said that he had been in the city of Cuba, for the purpose of his designs in reference thereto.

Mr. Maurice spoke more at length. He said the address brought to the notice of the Committee, was intended for the constituents of the signers only; and that its introduction to the House was an unnecessary act. Whether it was to be considered as a general address, or not, he would not say; but he desired to know if it contained a word that was not in accordance with truth.

The opinions of Mr. Soule were not unknown. His appointment had been regarded with surprise throughout the country, and with alarm. His conduct at Madrid also had been such as had been expected. It had proved startling and alarming to the people of this country. And, in relation to the Black Warrior, he had been peculiarly and unnecessarily insolent and insulting. He had this not from official source, though he doubted not it could be found; but it had been everywhere reported and believed in this country. It had been copied from the London Times into the Washington Union.

He doubted, however, that on his return to this hall in a few days, he could establish the truth of every allegation and the soundness of every conjecture made in relation to his conduct.

Mr. Perkins replied briefly, when Mr. Smith, of Virginia, arose, and said that the address, so far from being designed exclusively for the constituents of the gentlemen signing it, was designed for the general circulation; and in proof of this, he would state that it had been published in the National Intelligencer, by permission, of course. It was designed to inform the Democratic party, and to excite them to action in reference to the United States. Its signers, he declared, were no longer members of that party.

Mr. Peckham. Oh, no, oh, no! [General and loud laughter.]

Mr. Smith described the laughter as sardonic, and continued to denounce the address, declaring that it had taken up every conceivable piece of Whig and Abolitionist party and its chief. It was the true policy of the Democratic party to cause all impurities to slough off.

In denouncing Abolitionists in general, Mr. Smith paused, and said, there was one gentleman upon that floor of that class, whom he could not denounce—one whom he respected as a just and good man—a remarkable illustration of just intentions in error—a gentleman whom he honored, and whom the South would receive with a warm and cordial welcome, as entitled to its respect and esteem—a man who would never violate truth, nor dignify of bearing.

[Mr. Gerrit Smith was here understood to be referred to.]

Mr. Maurice rose again, and said he felt gratified to the gentleman from Virginia for the degree of importance he had attached to the humble address in question. A copy of it should be placed upon the desk of each gentleman, and he would not be surprised if it would be generally read. [Laughter.]

Mr. Smith said he regarded the address as important, as it was a type of its kind. More extended operations of the same character were talked of.

Mr. Perkins gave notice of his intention to print his remarks entire upon the subject upon which he had spoken; and at forty minutes past one o'clock, the Committee rose, and the House adjourned till 8 o'clock, to-morrow.

For the National Era.

MAYING SONG.

BY LUCY LARKIN.

May, merry May, old of doors,  
The clouds have ceased their weeping.  
To see kind Earth unroll her stores  
A thousand rays are peeping.

The treasures kept for lovely May  
Are hills and fields, and flowers,  
For shame—to stay  
At home to-day!

Come, let us go a-Maying!  
There's ravelling upon the rock,  
And cowslips in the meads;  
The yellow bell and the white stalk  
Is nodding through the hedges.

Blue violets, white anemones,  
With hawthorn blossoms are playing.  
There's more than these  
Beneath the tree—  
Come, let us go a-Maying!

The apple-blossoms begin to bloom,  
The peach will hide its blush;  
The mayflower wears her richest dress,  
The tansied larches loom.

The lightest green that spring can give,  
Her loom with beauty playing,  
The sweet-breathed air  
Sings everywhere—  
Come, let us go a-Maying!

Among the loughs the robins built,  
Before the April showers,  
The crane now, with plumage gilt,  
Goes flashing by the flowers;

The bob-link like "how d'ye do"  
O'er uneven fields is saying,  
"He's calling you!"  
He means me, too;  
Come, let us go a-Maying!

For once give over till, and flee  
To pine woods over shady,  
For better hours than eye can see—  
The harvest of a May day.

For best of fortune and good cheer,  
Among our home-thoughts staying,  
Will still be true,  
With richer air,  
Oh, come! let's go a-Maying!

THE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

We have already referred to the proceedings of the State Convention of Independent Democrats, which assembled at Pittsburgh, on the 21st. The policy of uniting with the Whigs in the coming election in Pennsylvania was discussed at length, but voted down by a large majority. The ground taken by the Whig party in that State was regarded as far below the demands of Freedom, embracing no declaration of sentiments concerning the Fugitive Slave Act or Slavery within the limits of the Federal Jurisdiction. The Pittsburgh Fairer says:

"If the Whigs and Judge Pollock will now come out for the 'repeal of the Nebraska bill,' and as they are promised, of the Fugitive Slave bill; if they will repudiate the compromise of '50 and 50' and the Missouri Compromise; if they will take the ground of the Connecticut Legislature, namely, 'no more slave States, no slave Territories'—then, in no slave State, the Free Democrats will withdraw and vote for Whigs, so pledged, if their lives indicate sound backbones."

A resolution was submitted, recommending a State Convention of citizens of all parties, to take into consideration the continued aggression of the Slave Power, but after much discussion this was rejected.

The following resolutions were then adopted by the Convention:

"Resolved, That hereafter we will not be content with seeing the aggression of the Slave Power, whenever we fight to disadvantage, but will 'carry the war into Africa' itself; and will not cease our struggle until we have excluded Slavery from all the Territories, and secured it in the District of Columbia, prohibited the sale of human beings for the debts of their alleged masters, under Federal process, repealed the fugitive slave law, divorced the National Government from all support of Slavery, and used all constitutional power to drive the iniquitous system from our country."

"Resolved, That the Pittsburgh Platform of Independent Democrats, adopted August 12, 1852 (except the tenth article thereof) is a bold assertion of true Democratic doctrine, and the measures there proposed is Democracy reduced to practice, and we therefore cordially approve and will steadfastly adhere to it."

"Resolved, That we are in favor of dividing the State into single Senatorial and Represent-

ative districts for the State Legislature, and are opposed to all special and class legislation, and demand, instead, the passage of general laws, and that each bill be confined to one object, which shall be named in the title."

"Resolved, That we regard the traffic in intoxicating drink as one of the most fruitful sources of misery, pauperism, and crime, and demand its total prohibition, by a law adequate in its penalties and means of execution to accomplish that object."

"Resolved, That the prohibition of Slavery north of 36 deg 30 min. was part of a compromise which never should have been made; but that compromise having been made, and the part of it favorable to Slavery having been substantially executed, it is as disgraceful to the slave interest to demand the repeal of the part favorable to Freedom, as it is to Northern dogfoolage to yield to that demand, and as it will be to all Northern freemen if they acquiesce in its repeal."

"Resolved, That the eleven Pennsylvania allies of Slavery in Congress, who have misrepresented the State, and sought to dishonor the constituents by the repeal of the Missouri prohibition of Slavery, ought to receive the hearty contempt of all true Americans who believe the Declaration of Independence was adopted in good faith, and not as a rhetorical flourish; and we hereby pledge ourselves to use our utmost exertions to bring about union and harmony amongst true men of all parties, for the defeat of all such men."

The Convention then adjourned sine die.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1854.

RENEWALS AND NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS.—WHO RESPONDS?

The time has come when we must call upon subscribers whose terms are about expiring, to renew; and, while doing so, to send new names with their own. The first half of the present volume of the Era will close with the last of this month. We have just sent out a special request to our voluntary agents, to join in a determined and vigorous effort to enlarge our list. The time is auspicious. People are not so much in the habit of Slavery, and need information. Only the first great triumph of the Slave Power has been won. Further and more dangerous aggressions are meditated. The Anti-Slavery sentiment of the country needs organization. To promote the great cause of Union for the sake of Freedom, the most active efforts ought now to be made, to increase the circulation of newspapers opposed to Slavery.

The Era needs a special movement in its favor. Some of its best agents during the last twelve months have diverted their labors to the establishment of local Anti-Slavery papers. We do not complain of this, but could they not now spare a few weeks to the Era, which has no other end at all, but to unite the people upon the general interest felt in the vigorous maintenance of such a paper at the seat of Government? In brief terms, let us say that, should they succeed in adding to our Weekly list six thousand subscribers, it would not repay the loss we have sustained in undertaking to carry on a Daily Era, although it would enable us to relieve ourselves from the embarrassments in which that has involved us.

Let every agent use his best exertions for the paper. Let every subscriber whose time is about to expire, renew promptly, and send us at least one new name. We reprint our Terms, and shall keep them standing, as a guide to the efforts of our friends:

TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ERA.  
One copy, 1 year, \$2. One copy, 6 months, \$1.  
Three copies, do., 5 Five copies, do., 5  
Ten copies, do., 15 Ten copies, do., 8

Voluntary agents are entitled to retain 50 cents commission on each new yearly, and 25 cents on each new semi-yearly subscriber, except in the case of old subscribers, who receive the commission on the renewal of an old subscriber.

A club of three subscribers (one of whom may be an old one) at \$3, will entitle the person making it up to a copy of the Era three months; a club of five (two of whom may be old ones) at \$8, to a copy for six months; a club of ten (five of whom may be old ones) at \$13, to a copy for one year.

Money to be forwarded, by mail, at my risk. Large amounts may be remitted in drafts or certificates of deposit.

G. BAILEY.  
Washington, D. C., 1854.

WHAT A LITTLE EFFORT CAN ACCOMPLISH.

Everybody has a circle within which he or she can operate. Here is what an honest man can accomplish, appreciating the importance of circulating Anti-Slavery information at this crisis, did for the Era, a few days since, at Monmouth, Illinois:

"Sir, I know the character of your paper, it having been taken by a member of our family, James Robb, of Pittsburgh, for a number of years; and I am sure it is by duty to labor for the cause of the oppressed everywhere. I am persuaded that to extend the Era will promote this result. It was only last Saturday I concluded to renew it, and was making known my purpose to others that came into my shop. I thought I could form a club of ten without much effort. So, in two days, I got seven new subscribers; and I think that before the paper arrives I can make up the number to ten. So you see from this feeble effort what could be done by the whole army of Free Democrats, if they would but try."

WEINMOUTH, May 24, 1854.

I saw a suggestion in your paper, the National Era, that every subscriber should obtain one more. I like the idea, but action is better. I think it will be very easy for every one to do it. I am an old subscriber, and send you two more subscribers, for which I enclose you three dollars.

ANOTHER STORY BY ALICE CAREY.

We intend to commence a new story by Alice Carey, the first week in July.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM BELL SMITH WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S ERA.

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE HAS REACHED A CIRCULATION, COUNTING ALL ITS ISSUES, OF 150,000. ITS FRIENDS HAVE WORKED HARD FOR IT.

Our Philadelphia package, usually sent to our agent by Adams & Co's express, failed to reach him last week; consequently, our subscribers there failed to receive their papers; but we expect to be able to furnish them with the missing number this week.

Some one sends us two dollars from Peacham, Vermont, but does not give his name.

To prepare the Capital for the summer session of Congress will cost a few thousands of dollars, as we have been assured. This is a large expenditure, if that session is only to last from the first Monday in June until the first Monday in July. But the opinion is gaining here, that so early an adjournment is a thing impossible. Members, on going before their constituents, will prefer showing something more than the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, or the result of their labors during a whole session of seven months.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT FROM CAMPBELL.—The Frankfort, Ky., Commonwealth states that on Monday night, May 23, three daughters of Rev. Mr. Perry, Methodist preacher, living at El Dorado, six or seven miles from Harrodsburg, were horribly burned by the explosion of a camp-bell lamp, and that the whole three are dead.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?—THE NEED OF THE TIME.

In another column the reader will find an article from a very intelligent correspondent, on the "Need of the Time." It deserves consideration. The writer would interpose no obstacle in the way of those who are seeking to bring about a general union of the friends of Freedom, but his object evidently is, to guard against an inadequate and inefficient organization of their force.

The perpetuation of the Whig Party necessarily involves the maintenance of the present Democratic Party—and the continuance of both, leaves to Free-Soilers, or Independent Democrats, no alternative but the preservation of their organization.

The nucleus of the Independent Democratic Party was formed in 1839-40, and was then known as the "Liberty Party." From that time down to the last Presidential election, the most determined efforts were made to secure to the Whig Party the adhesion of its members. Its separate action was condemned as a blunder. Its leaders were charged with playing into the hands of the "Locofocos." It was asserted that the Whigs were more favorably disposed to the Cause of Freedom than the Democrats; and, therefore, although not coming quite up to the standard of the Liberty men, they had a claim upon their support. "A half loaf was better than no bread."

The true policy was "to choose between evils;" the right way was to vote for the men, least opposed to their opinion, who had a chance of being elected. It was folly to throw away votes, without the slightest prospect of success; it was wicked, by withholding them from the Whig Party, to subject it to defeat. Of course, men who piled them with arguments of this kind, held them responsible for the defeat of Henry Clay, and what was charged as necessary consequences, the annexation of Texas and the Mexican war; and responsible, too, for the election of General Pierce, and whatever consequences resulted from that event.

Steadily the friends of direct political action against the Slave Power, maintained their ground, through evil and good report, adding to their numbers, never changing their principles or policy, although, in obedience to circumstances, they accepted a new name, and in 1848 became known as the Free or Independent Democratic Party.

From that moment, it will have a right to claim, and it will command, the vote of every citizen who believes that the need of the time is, the abolition of the Slave Power. Let the Whig Party assembled in National Convention, take this ground, and it becomes the Party of Freedom, and would deserve, as it would receive, the vote of every sincere opponent of Slavery.

The friends of Slavery, in the present State of the Nation, are in a position to place the Slave Power, as it is called, upon a pedestal, and to make it a model for the people to follow. They are in a position to make it a model for the people to follow. They are in a position to make it a model for the people to follow.

Let the Democratic Party, assembled in National Convention, adopt substantially this creed, and it becomes the Party of Freedom. From that moment, it will have a right to claim, and it will command, the vote of every citizen who believes that the need of the time is, the abolition of the Slave Power. Let the Whig Party assembled in National Convention, take this ground, and it becomes the Party of Freedom, and would deserve, as it would receive, the vote of every sincere opponent of Slavery.

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ing; but if that be all, it is hardly worth the labor of attempting a new party. There must be a principle at the bottom of the movement, if it is to be successful. That principle must be determined by ascertaining what are our national responsibilities for Slavery. Just so far as these extend, our action must be.

Slavery exists within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government, is sustained by its power, and the Slave Interest possesses and controls this Government. For this state of things, not the slaveholders alone, not the People of the slave States alone, but the People of all the States are responsible. Our duty is plain: it is, to turn Slavery out of the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government, and rescue that from the grasp of the Slave Interest.

The repeal of the Missouri Compromise is but one of the many acts of the supremacy we have allowed to the Slave Power. We must destroy that supremacy! That alone will save this country from becoming an immense Slave Empire, dedicated to the propagation of Slavery.

Again, we say, let us begin right. There are three articles which contain the whole creed of the Independent Democracy on the subject of Slavery:

"That the Constitution of the United States, ordained to form a more perfect union, to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessings of liberty to its people, shall be maintained, and that the Government, having in view the existence of Slavery, wherever it exists, shall use all the powers it possesses to secure its abolition."

"That the perpetrating and important duties of the Slave Power for more slave States, new slave Territories, and the nationalization of Slavery, our distinct and final answer is—no more slave States, no slave Territories, no nationalized Slavery, and no national legislation for the extradition of slave possessors constitutional power to legislate for its extinction."

"That, to the perpetrating and important duties of the Slave Power for more slave States, new slave Territories, and the nationalization of Slavery, our distinct and final answer is—no more slave States, no slave Territories, no nationalized Slavery, and no national legislation for the extradition of slave possessors constitutional power to legislate for its extinction."

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